

EXHIBIT C

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO TRANSACT BUSINESS IN ILLINOIS

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO BE LATE-FILED

Office of the Secretary of State

I, EDWARD J. FREEL, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE ATTACHED IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF "KMC TELECOM III, INC.", FILED IN THIS OFFICE ON THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF DECEMBER, A.D. 1998, AT 12:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

A FILED COPY OF THIS CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE NEW CASTLE COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS.




Edward J. Freel, Secretary of State

2978388 8100

AUTHENTICATION:

9459927

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

OF

KMC Telecom III, Inc.

FIRST: The name of the corporation is KMC Telecom III, Inc. (the "Corporation").

SECOND: The address of the registered office of the Corporation in Delaware is The Corporation Trust Company, 1209 Orange Street, County of New Castle, Wilmington, Delaware 19801.

THIRD: The purpose for which the Corporation is formed is to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under the Delaware General Corporation Law.

FOURTH: The total number of shares of stock which the Corporation shall have authority to issue is One Hundred (100) shares of Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share.

FIFTH: The name and mailing address of the sole incorporator of the Corporation are as follows:

Scott A. Jalowsyski
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP
101 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10178

SIXTH: The following provisions are inserted for purposes of the management of the business and conduct of the affairs of the Corporation and for creating, defining, limiting and regulating the powers of the Corporation and its directors and stockholders:

(a) The number of directors of the Corporation shall be fixed and may be altered from time to time in the manner provided in the Bylaws, and vacancies in the Board of Directors and newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors may be filled, and directors may be removed, as provided in the Bylaws.

(b) The election of directors may be conducted in any manner approved by the stockholders at the time when the election is held and need not be by ballot.

(c) All corporate powers and authority of the Corporation (except as at the time otherwise provided by law, by this Certificate of Incorporation or by the Bylaws) shall be vested in and exercised by the Board of Directors.

(d) The Board of Directors shall have the power without the assent or vote of the stockholders to adopt, amend, alter or repeal the Bylaws of the Corporation, except to the extent that the Bylaws or this Certificate of Incorporation otherwise provide.

SEVENTH: The Corporation reserves the right to amend or repeal any provision contained in this Certificate of Incorporation in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by the laws of the State of Delaware, and all rights herein conferred upon stockholders or directors are granted subject to this reservation.

EIGHTH: No director shall be personally liable to the Corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided, however, that the foregoing shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the Corporation or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

NINTH: Meetings of stockholders may be held within or without the State of Delaware, as the Bylaws may provide. The books of the Corporation may be kept (subject to any provision contained in the statutes of the State of Delaware) outside the State of Delaware at such place or places as may be designated from time to time by the Board of Directors of the Corporation in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do execute this Certificate and affirm and acknowledge, under penalties of perjury, that this Certificate is my act and deed and that the facts stated herein are true, this 14th day of December, 1998.



Scott A. Jalowayski, Sole Incorporator